

# INVENTORY OF SEEDS AND PLANTS IMPORTED BY THE OFFICE OF FOREIGN SEED AND PLANT INTRODUCTION DURING THE PERIOD FROM APRIL 1 TO JUNE 30, 1915 (NO. 43; NOS. 40389 TO 40895).

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## INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT.

The plant material recorded in this inventory represents collections made and gifts received from different parts of the world while the European war was in progress, and, as showing how little the war has affected the attitude of the scientific men with whom this office is in touch, it may be remarked that specialists in the following countries have furnished plants or seeds in response to requests or upon their own initiative: Italy, France, Holland, England, and their colonies, Russia, China, Sweden, Greece, Spain, Mexico, Argentina, Japan, Colombia, Turkey, Peru, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Chile, Guatemala, Cuba, Liberia, and Paraguay. While the number of shipments falls below that of similar periods before the war and is probably much below what it would have been had there been no war, it is nevertheless a substantial showing of cooperation among the scientific plant enthusiasts of the world.

The most notable collections recorded in the inventory are those made by the Department's explorer, Mr. Frank N. Meyer, during his expedition into the little-known Province of Kansu, in north-western China. This expedition was made from Peking, from which city Mr. Meyer started on June 29, 1914, his route taking him through the following principal cities of China and enabling him to get a general idea of the field for exploration there: Changte (Honan), Luanfu, Pingyangfu, Wensi, Tungchowfu, Sianfu, Paoki, Fenghsien, Huihsien, Chenghsien, Chiehchow, Siku, Minchow, Taochow, Titaochow, Lanchowfu, Pingliang, Kingchow, and Pinchow.

It is outside the province of this brief introduction even to sketch the accomplishments of this expedition, which lasted seven months, further than to call attention to the plant species which were discovered during its progress, as enumerated in this inventory. Mr.

NOTE.—This bulletin is a record of new or little-known seeds and plants procured mostly from abroad. It is intended for distribution to agricultural experiment stations and the more important private cooperators.